

MONEY-FIGHT

Chapter Thirty-Eight: Low Energy
MIX UP



KOHANA TACHIBANA (17)

Coach Tachibana's daughter. Currently training to be a gym manager. Unlike her father, who prefers carefully planned fight strategies, Kohana possesses a knack for reading the flow of a match and on-the-fly decision making. Never overlooking an opponent's weaknesses and mental frailty, she is equally belligerent toward her own fighters.

HIS DEBUT FIGHT WAS AGAINST KYOKUBI GYM'S SNIPER FUJITA.

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HE HAD A HARD TIME GETTING HITS IN AGAINST FUJITA'S 7'3" STATURE, BUT MANAGED TO KNOCK HIM OUT TWO MINUTES AND SIX SECONDS IN THE THIRD ROUND.

HIS SECOND FIGHT WAS AGAINST GAMOU GYM'S MICKY MARUYAMA, WHOSE OFFICIAL HEIGHT IS 4'3".

MITARAI WON BY A DEVASTATING KNOCK OUT ONE MINUTE AND TWENTY SECONDS INTO THE FIRST ROUND.

THEY SAY HE MOVES SO QUICKLY THAT HIS OPPONENT SEEMS TO FREEZE COMPLETELY.

FOR THE ROOKIE KING TOURNAMENT PRIMORDIARIES, HE FACED THE FASTEST MONK IN THE EAST. TSUNADAOT TSUNDOKU ALSO KNOWN AS "SKANDA."

MITARAS WON BY TWO ONE MINUTE AND FIFTY SIX SECONDS IN THE SECOND ROUND.

THE STANDS WERE MOSTLY FILLED WITH WOMEN, MAKING MITARAS THE VISITING TEAM.

HIS THIRD FIGHT WAS AGAINST PRETTY BOY HIGH SCHOOL BOXER AND LORD OF COUNTERS, SOUTA "PRINCE" SATOU.



THOUGH HIS STRIKING BECAME KING OF RANDOM DUE TO NERVES, HE PULLED OUT A KO THIRTY-TWO SECONDS INTO THE THIRD ROUND.

THOUGH HE WAS HATRED AS UNBEATABLE, MITARAS KNOCKED HIM OUT TWO MINUTES AND FIFTY SECONDS INTO THE FOURTH ROUND.

WITH A BODY-AEON TO THAT OF AN INVERTEBRATE, KENDOK WAS CAPABLE OF ABSORBING COUNTLESS PUNCHES AND DISPERSED THE DAMAGE.

IN THE EAST JAPAN ROOKIE KING FINALS, HE FIGHTED MOTSUMOTO GYM'S KENDOK "INVINCIBLE" 3030.





AND AT THE NATIONAL
ROOKIE KING TOURNAMENT FINALS, HE
DEFEATED DAIMON
GYM'S OWN SHINNO-
SUKE "TRICKSTER"
KURESHIMA IN THE
FIRST ROUND AND
WAS AWARDED MVP.

A DEFEAT SO EMBARRASSING, COACH
DAIMON FORCED
KURESHIMA TO
RETIRE, A BOXER
HE'D TAKEN UNDER
HIS WING. THAT
SUMS UP MITARAI'S
BOXING HISTORY.



KURESHIMA,
YOU PICKED A
BAD DUDE
TO SEND AN
OFFER TO.

KANNI GYM CHIEF
MIKIO NOUJOU

HE'S
KO VICTORY
AGAINST BASZ
THE OTHER DAY
IS NO DOUBT
GOING TO
SCARE PEOPLE
OFF EVEN
MORE.

HAVING RISSEN
THE RANKS IN
JAPAN, HE'S
STARTING TO
HAVE A HARD
TIME FINDING
OPPONENTS
APPARENTLY.



THE HELL
DID YOU
SAY?! DO
YOU THINK
KENO'S
GONNA LOSE,
HOUYOU?!
HUH?!

SLAM



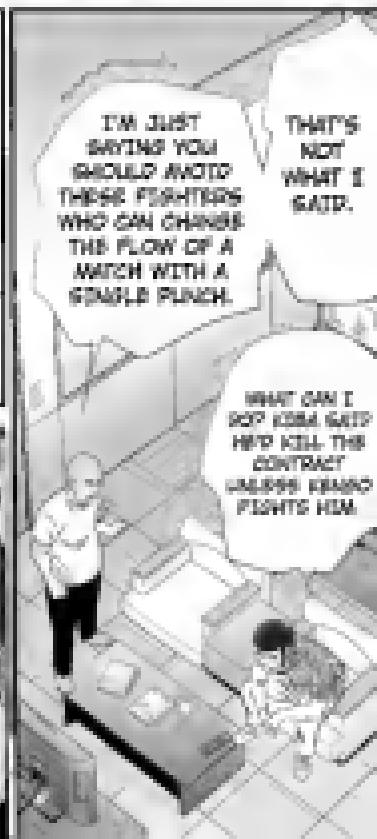
WE'VE DUCKED
OUT OF INVITA-
TIONS FROM
PLENTY OF
DANGEROUS
FIGHTERS THAT
WANNA FIGHT NOW.

LET'S PRO-
LONG THE
MATCH! I'D
SAY KENO GOT
INJURED OR SOM-
THIN'.

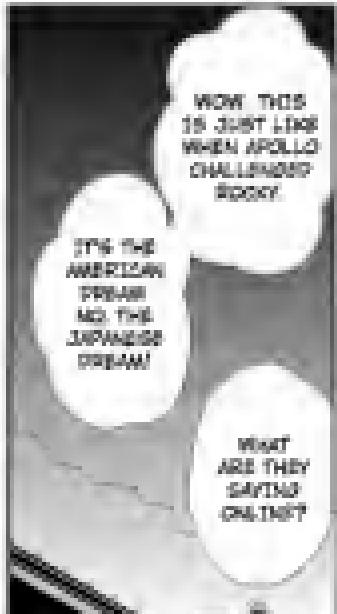
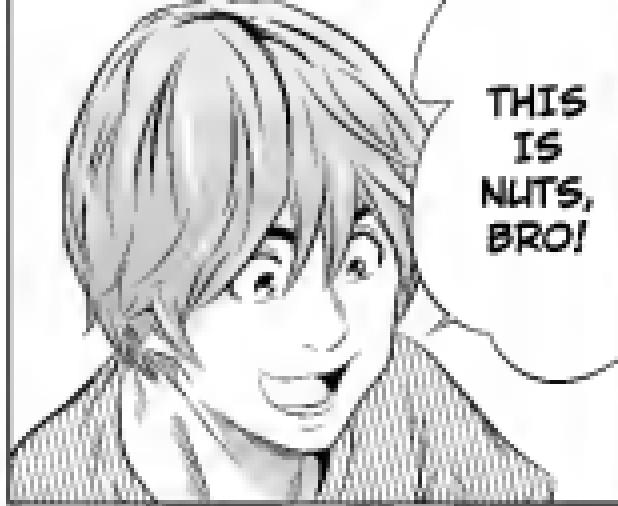
I'M JUST
TRYING YOU
SHOULD ANTO
THESE FIGHTERS
WHO CAN CHANGE
THE FLOW OF A
MATCH WITH A
STABIL PUNCH.

THAT'S NOT
WHAT I
SAID.

WHAT CAN I
DO? KENO GAN
HEP KILL THE
CONTRACT
WALLER FRASCO
FIGHTS HIM.









EVER SINCE HE WAS KNOCKED DOWN IN HIS FIRST WORLD TITLE MATCH, HIS FIGHTING STYLE CHANGED COMPLETELY.



TRIBAL
LEADER
CAN T
FIGHT
BACK

WE'RE
REACHED
THE LAST
MINUTE
OF THE
MATCH!



IN OTHER WORDS, HE'S SWITCHED HIS GAME TO DEFENSE RATHER THAN OFFENSE.

HE DOESN'T FOLLOW THROUGH WITH EACH PUNCH LIKE HE USED TO.

STAY BACK AND JAB. HE'S MORE SO TAPPING THAN REALLY DRIVING HOME.

AFTER HE THROWS THE IMMEDIATELY COUNTERS TO TAKE AWAY ANY RANGE HIS OPPONENT CAN UTILIZE.

THAT RIGHT HE THROWS FROM A CERTAIN DISTANCE. HE MAKES UP FOR THE LACK OF POWER WITH ENOUGH SPEED THAT HIS OPPONENT CAN'T REACT.

ANOTHER NO-MOTION RIGHT!



ON THE OTHER
HAND, THAT
ALSO MAKES
HIM INCREDI-
BLY DIFFI-
CULT TO DRAW
UP A STRATEGY
AGAINST.

WHAT STICKS
OUT IS HIS
UNNATURAL
HARSHNESS,
NEITHER HIS
FIGHTING SKILL

HIS SPEED
AND STRENGTH — ISN'T ANY-
THING PAR-
FOR A CHAMP.
TICULARLY
SCARY
ABOUT
HIM.

NAMELY...



IT'D BE
HARD TO
WIN IN
A DECI-
SION.

WATCHING
HIM LIKE
THIS, THAT
KENDO'S A
PRETTY
CLEVER
BOXER.





I'LL
DO IT!

TACHIBANA BOXING
AND BOXERS ARE
WHAT I RAISE!

IF I WIN, I'LL
COMPLETELY
SKIP THE
JAPAN TITLE
AND BECOME
WORLD CHAMP,
RIGHT?

OH? FEELING
CONFIDENT AFTER
BEATING BABY?
EVEN THOUGH
YOU COMPLAINED
ABOUT MY
MATCHMAKING
UNTIL NOW.

I WON'T KNOW
UNLESS I TRY!
I'VE BAGGED A
NUMBER OF
UPSET WINS
UNTIL NOW!

GET YOUR HEAD
OUTTA YOUR ASS,
KID! YOU'RE NOT
READY TO TAKE THE
JAPAN CHAMPION
TITLE, LET ALONE
THE WORLD TITLE!

AND WITH
THE FANS,
COMES THE
DOUGH!
GAHAHAHA!

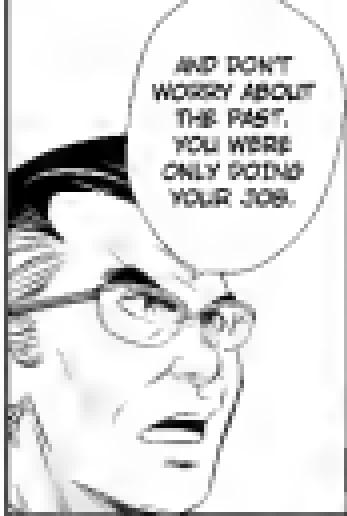


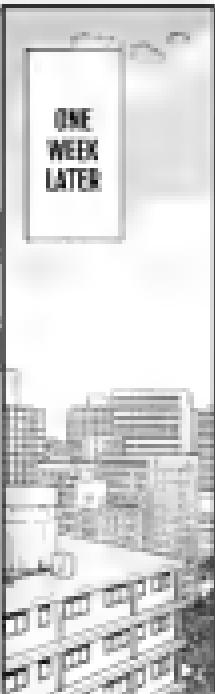
THE
BOXERS
ARE THE
STARS.



DAD DO YOU
HAVE ANY IDEA
WHAT TIME IT
IS? THE ELECTRI-
CITY BILL IS GOING—









SO HE'S THE
GUY WHO
DOMINATED
THE HIGH
SCHOOL
CIRCUIT.

NISHIMATI HAS
POWER, BUT
HE'S NOT AS
TECHNICAL
AS HISAI.

THIS SHOULD BE
GOOD PRACTICE
FOR YAGURUMA'S
COMING FIGHT
AGAINST THE
SLUGGER,
HIRAI.

THE JAPAN
BANTAMWEIGHT
CHAMPION...

...AND TOOK
THE TITLE ON
HIS THIRD
MATCH AFTER
HIS PRO
DEBUT.

**SOUSHI
YAGURUMA!**

